

FIG. 1a Expanded Stent

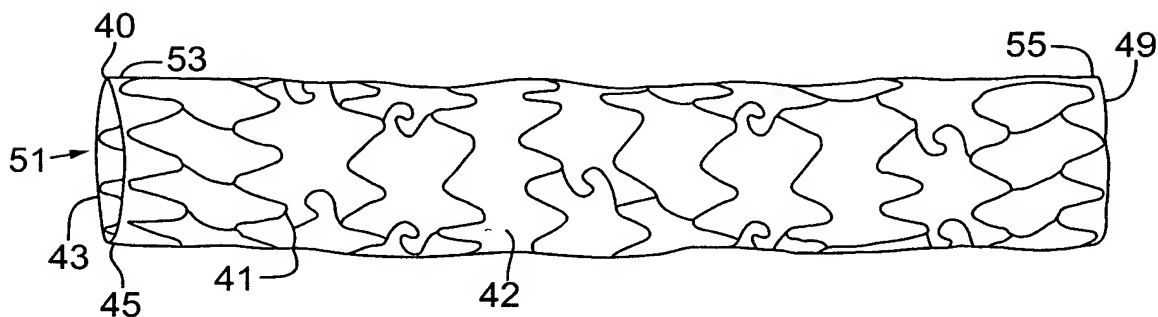
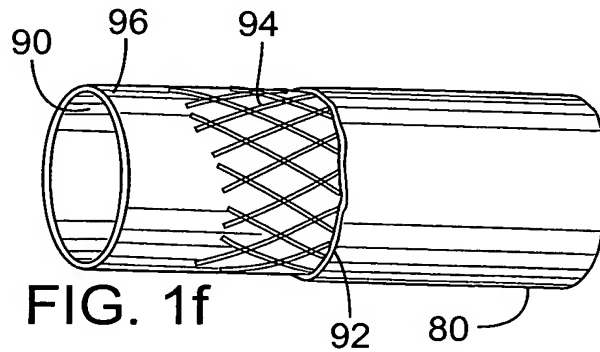
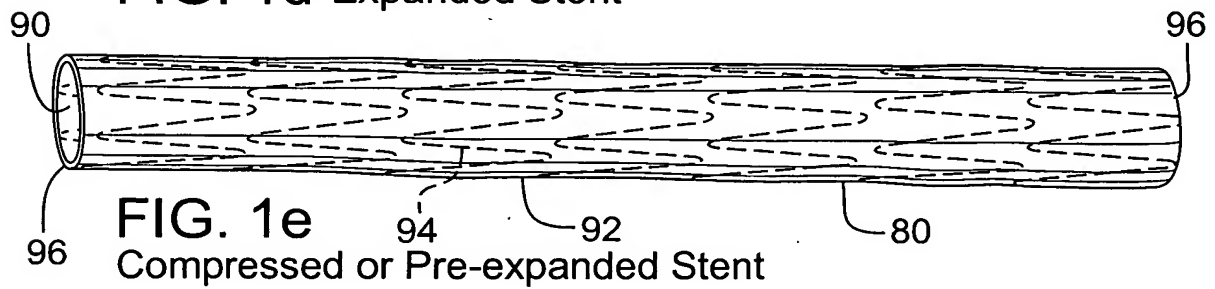
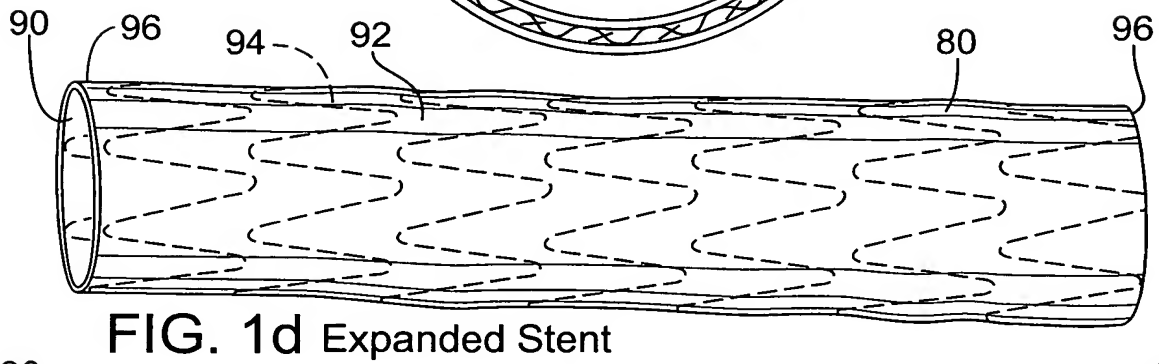
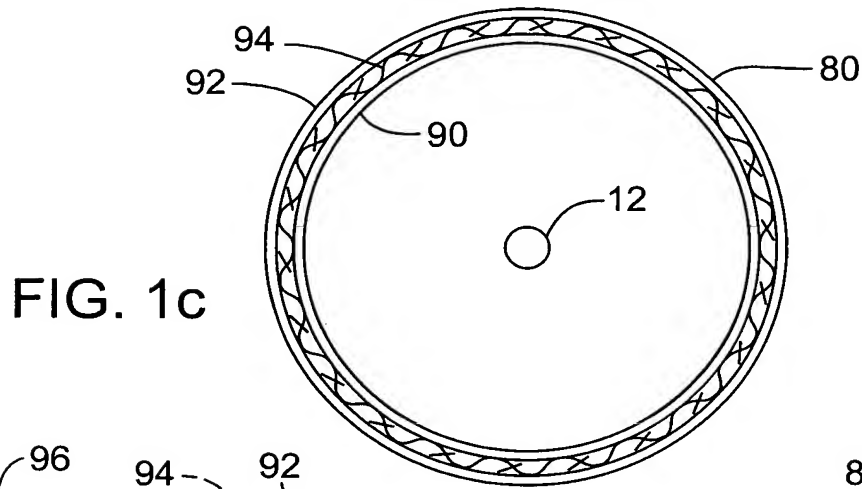
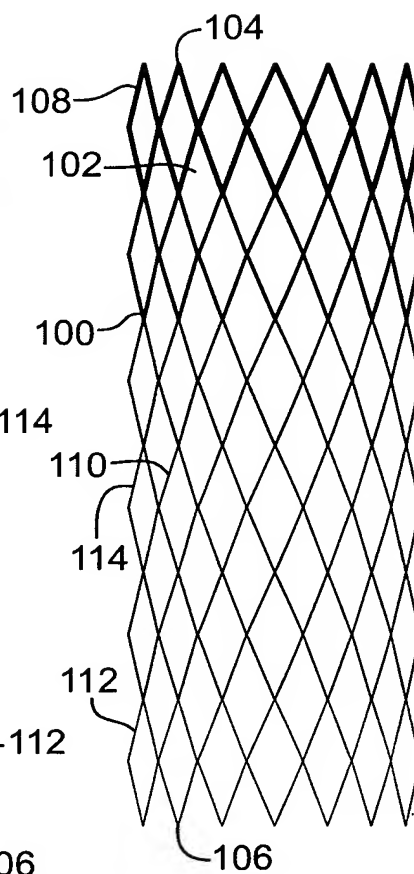
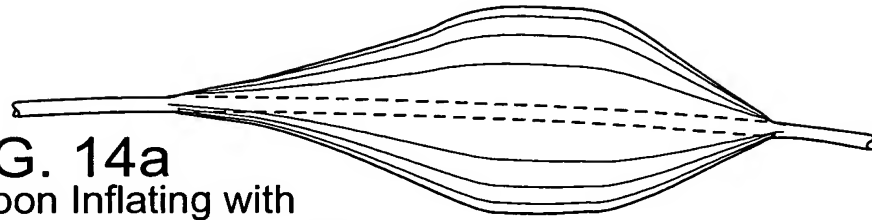


FIG. 1b  
Compressed or Pre-expanded Stent

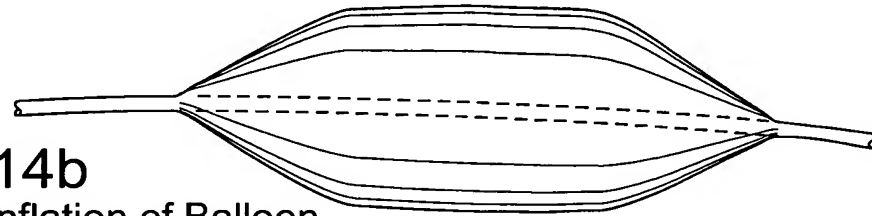




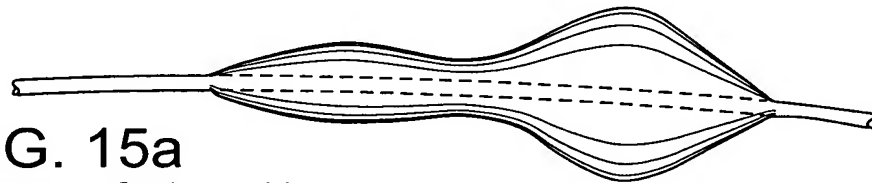
**FIG. 13c**  
From Bottom to  
Top Gradually  
Thicker Metal



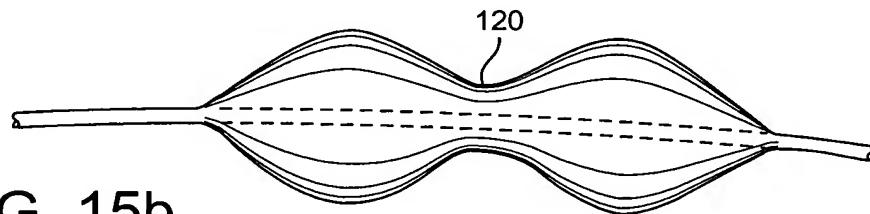
**FIG. 14a**  
Balloon Inflating with  
Distal End Opening First



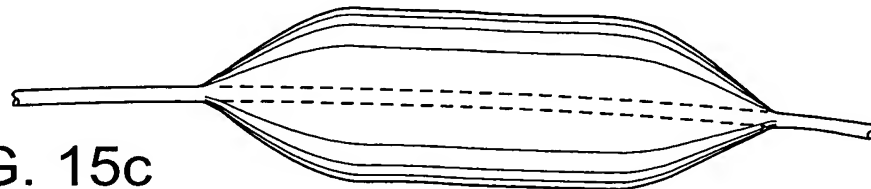
**FIG. 14b**  
Further Inflation of Balloon  
Showing Complete Inflation



**FIG. 15a**  
Balloon Inflating with  
Distal End Opening First



**FIG. 15b**  
Proximal End Inflating Second



**FIG. 15c**  
Full Balloon Inflation